

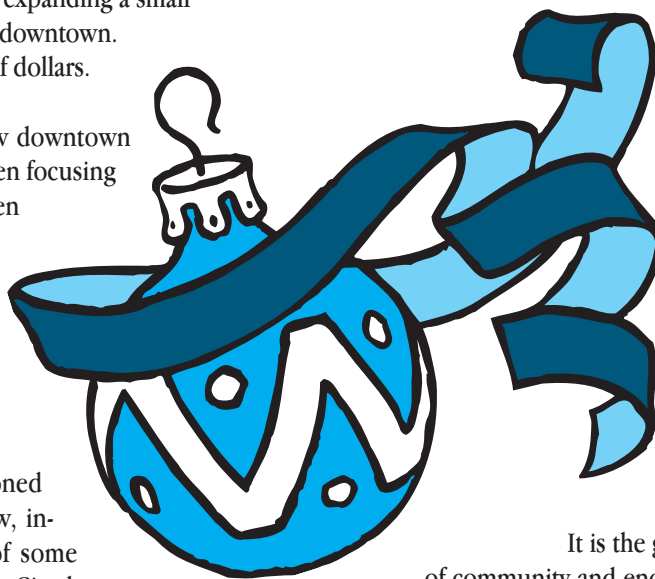
New Incentives for Business Development in the Downtown

IF YOU are thinking about starting or expanding a small business in Morgan Hill, consider the downtown. It could save you tens of thousands of dollars.

After the recent approval of the new downtown design plan, the City Council has been focusing on ways to bring in business to enliven the downtown. Several larger projects are on the "drawing board" and others, like the Granary and the South County Day Worker Center on Depot Street have already been approved.

Third Street, for example, is envisioned to contain a mixture of old and new, including the potential conversion of some residential to commercial uses. The City has been looking for ways to make it less expensive and, therefore, easier to convert these types of units into businesses and also for small business expansion projects to occur in the downtown.

SEE "BUSINESS", PAGE 7



HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS TREE DECORATING EXHIBIT

HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS tree decorating exhibit is an exciting new addition to holiday celebrations in Morgan Hill.

It is the goal of this event to foster a sense of community and encourage families to gather and enjoy a festive holiday event in downtown Morgan Hill.

All public schools within the Morgan Hill Unified School District and private schools within the city limits have been invited to decorate a tree for the exhibit. The decorating theme of this year's

SEE "HOLIDAY", PAGE 5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE :

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- BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS
- BUTTERFIELD GETS BETTER
- CITY FURLOUGH SCHEDULE
- CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING INFORMATION
- DESIGNATE THAT DRIVER!
- 29 ACRES OF NEW PUBLIC TRAILS
- MONTEREY ROAD DUSTS OLD FOR NEW
- HOLIDAY FUN & RECREATION GUIDE UPDATE
- COMMUNITY CALENDAR & CHANNEL 17 SCHEDULE

Youth+You: Make The Connection

ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION: YOUTH SHOULD BE MOTIVATED TO DO WELL IN SCHOOL. ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN AND OTHERS TO EXCEL AT SCHOOL BY MONITORING AND RECOGNIZING THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, SUPPORTING THEM IN REACHING THEIR GOALS, AND ABOVE ALL, REMAINING INTERESTED IN THEIR SCHOOLWORK.

Kids + Curfew = Safety

IT'S 11 P.M. "Do you know where your children are?" That is the question you may need to answer when the Morgan Hill Police Department calls you some evening.

Over the years, Morgan Hill has monitored the increase in loitering and juveniles becoming victims of crime. In analyzing the cause of the increased juvenile activity and ways to proactively decrease the juvenile crime rate, the City enacted a Curfew Ordinance in 1996.

What is the Curfew Ordinance? It is a crime prevention program designed to both protect youth, reduce crime, and assist families with troubled youth. It seeks to eliminate loitering by unsupervised minors during the late night and early morning hours. Unsupervised youth, who are out late at night with nothing to do, have a greater opportunity to become involved in criminal activity either as a victim or a suspect. This program is designed to help parents enforce family rules and exercise greater responsibility for their children.

The Curfew is enforced for minors under the age of 18 from 11 p.m. until 5 a.m., seven days a week. The minor cannot be in a public place within the City during Curfew hours. There are exceptions to this ordinance as defined in Section 9.14.030 of the Morgan Hill Municipal Code. These exceptions are:

1. *Accompanied by the minor's parent or guardian;*
2. *on an errand at the direction of the minor's parent without detour or stop;*
3. *engaged in, going to, or returning home from employment without detour or stop;*
4. *acting in response to an emergency;*
5. *on the sidewalk in front of the minor's residence;*
6. *waiting for a bus or train; or*
7. *emancipated minor.*

Minors loitering or wandering about without a specific purpose during curfew hours will be stopped and interviewed by a police officer. Once an officer has determined that a minor is in violation of the Curfew Ordinance, the officer will transport the minor to the Police Department. The minor's parents will be called to come to the Police Department to pick their child up and take him or her home. Any minor with outstanding warrants will be taken to Juvenile Hall. Those who repeatedly violate the Curfew Ordinance will be cited and fined.

Since the inception of the Curfew Ordinance, the police department has seen a reduction in late night criminal activity involving juveniles, fewer repeat offenders, and a cooperativeness from parents in dealing with juvenile issues. We encourage parents to discuss this ordinance with their children.



Article by Lt. Terrie Booten, 776-7315

Annual Grant Applications Now Available

THE COMMUNITY Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program was created by the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. Under this program, a wide variety of housing and housing-related activities have been funded nationally including construction of new affordable housing units, rehabilitation of affordable housing, construction of neighborhood centers, removal of architectural barriers for the elderly and the disabled, fair housing services, emergency/transitional shelters, and other public services.

All CDBG projects must:

- benefit low and very low income persons;
- help eliminate slums or blight; or
- meet an urgent need such as a threat to community health or welfare for which no other funds are available.

The City of Morgan Hill has participated in the CDBG pro-

gram since 1977 and will receive approximately \$172,200 for FY2004-2005. Of this amount, \$35,336 may be used for youth, senior, and housing or housing-related services.

***A WIDE VARIETY OF HOUSING AND
HOUSING-RELATED ACTIVITIES
HAVE BEEN FUNDED NATIONALLY***

Applications for the FY04-05 process will be available the first week in December from nonprofit agencies and will be due no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 16. For more information or to request an application packet, contact Teresa Crue in the Business Assistance and Housing Services Department at 776-7373.



City Council Adopts Affordable Housing Strategy

IN AUGUST 2003, the City Council adopted an Affordable Housing Strategy (Strategy) for both the City and Redevelopment Agency. The purpose of the Strategy was to establish goals, objectives, and programs for the use of the Agency's remaining Housing funds. By law, a Redevelopment Agency must set aside 20% of all the tax increment it collects for affordable housing activities.

The Housing Strategy estimates about \$20M is available for housing activities for the life of the Redevelopment Plan. This includes all sources available for housing activities in addition to Agency funds.

The Strategy makes specific program type and funding recommendations. Overall, the Strategy estimates that over 400 affordable units will be developed between FY04-05 and FY09-10. The targeted household income groups are as follows: 40% very low income (a family of four earning up to \$43,000 annually), 30% low income (a family of four earning up to \$67,000), and 30% moderate income (a family of four earning up to \$104,000). This distribution is based on a combination of the determined need, available financing sources, and required levels of subsidies.

To implement the Strategy, the City will implement programs and projects in the following six key areas:

- AFFORDABLE NEW OWNERSHIP CONSTRUCTION, SUCH AS HOUSING FOR TEACHERS.
- HOME-BUYER ASSISTANCE, SUCH AS DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.
- AFFORDABLE NEW RENTAL CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION.
- TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT/DOWNTOWN AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.
- SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING, INCLUDING SENIOR HOUSING AND GRANT PROGRAMS.
- OTHER HOUSING ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS SELF HELP HOUSING.

While work is underway on developing a variety of programs and projects in these key areas, a specific implementation work plan will be considered by the City Council in December.



Article by Garrett Toy, Director of Business Assistance and Housing Services, 776-7373 or babs@morgan-hill.ca.gov

THE CITY OF MORGAN HILL BUTTERFIELD PHASE 4 GRAND OPENING IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 10TH AT 9:30AM — JOIN US AT BUTTERFIELD BOULEVARD AND SAN PEDRO AVENUE.





CITY HALL
CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 24
THROUGH JANUARY 2.

DID YOU KNOW

THAT MOBILITY IMPAIRED RESIDENTS WHO ARE UNABLE TO TAKE OUT THEIR OWN TRASH AND RECYCLING CAN SELECT "SIDE YARD SERVICE" FROM SOUTH VALLEY DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING? USERS OF THIS SERVICE, WHICH IS AVAILABLE FOR AN EXTRA CHARGE OF \$8.50 PER MONTH, ARRANGE FOR THE SOUTH VALLEY DRIVER TO COME UP TO THEIR HOMES TO REMOVE THE TRASH CAN FOR THEM.



THE CITY'S Annual End of the Year Furlough will result in City Hall being closed from December 24 through January 2. During this time, Police, Fire, and other emergency services will continue to be provided as normal. Some limited inspection services will also be available. Nearly all other City services will not be available during this time. Please plan ahead to ensure that your needs for City services are met before December 24.



Christmas Tree Recycling

WHEN YOU are ready to recycle your tree this year, please follow these instructions:

- Remove all lights, tinsel, and decorations – flocking is OK.
- Cut the tree into sections three feet or less.
- Set the tree out on your yard trimming collection day only. Trees will not be collected on other days.

There is no charge to drop off trees at the San Martin Transfer Station at 14070 Llagas Ave. through January 31.



“Designate or Incarcerate”



THE HOLIDAY season has arrived. Parties have been planned and people are already looking forward to relaxing with cocktails or a few glasses of wine with friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Most of us will have

the sense to not drink and drive, but for those who do not, let us introduce the “Avoid the 13” Campaign. Named after the 13 police departments who originally participated (including Morgan Hill), the campaign is a coordinated effort by Santa Clara County law enforcement agencies to reduce DUI-related injuries and fatalities during the holiday season.

Now in its 27th year, this year's "Avoid the 13" campaign begins December 19 and runs through New Year's Day.

The Morgan Hill Police Department will be conducting sobriety checkpoints and deploying additional officers for DUI patrols during the campaign. It is all part of the educate and enforce philosophy promoted by Avoid the 13. The sobriety checkpoints serve as both a deterrent to driving while intoxicated and a valuable opportunity to reach out to the community with information. Each driver contacted receives literature on the often tragic results of driving while intoxicated, as well as helpful tips for getting you and your loved ones home safely.

Driving while intoxicated is never the right choice. Plan ahead and designate a driver as the evening begins. If a sober driver is unavailable, call a taxi, call a friend, or stay where you are. Make the right choice. Your life and the lives of others depend on it.




Article by Sgt. Mark Brazeal, 776-7300

“HOLIDAY”, FROM PAGE 1

exhibit will be, “An Expression of the Holiday Spirit in our Hometown.”

For information on how to participate, contact Ray Jimenez school coordinator at 779-5221 or rayd@ix.netcom.com.

The decorated trees will be on display around the amphitheater grounds and patio of the Community and Cultural Center at Monterey Road and Dunne Avenue. The exhibit will open following the Morgan Hill Holiday Parade on Saturday, December 6, 2003, with live holiday music and community singing. The trees will remain on display until January 2, 2004. The public will be invited to vote for their favorite tree between Dec. 6 and Dec. 20. Ballots will be available at the Community and Cultural Center and may be deposited in ballot boxes at various locations downtown. The School sponsoring the tree receiving the most ballots will be awarded \$1,000 to be used for school equipment or supplies. The second place winner will receive \$500. In case of a tie vote, the prizes will be split equally for the tied first place and second place entries. Winners will be determined on Dec. 22.

This event is sponsored by Hometown Holidays of Morgan Hill Inc., a private, nonprofit organization formed to showcase our community during the winter holidays. It operates through the cooperation and generous sponsorship of: the City of Morgan Hill, Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce, Morgan Hill Downtown Association, Morgan Hill Kiwanis Club, Morgan Hill Rotary Club, Morgan Hill Teachers Association, Rebekah Children's Services, and other individual and business donors. For further information or to make a donation to this event, please feel free to contact either Bonnie Rice or Bob Foster at 779-2106 or holidays@rftw.com or Hometown Holidays 2003, P.O. Box 10, Morgan Hill, CA 95038. All donations are tax deductible to the limits permitted by law. (Federal Tax ID# 47-0930972) 

*Article by Theresa Luggert, Recreation Supervisor,
779-7271 or luggert@morgan-hill.ca.gov*

NEW LOCAL TRAILS OPENING



Artist's rendition of the trail areas and access points for the new San Pedro Trails area



A NEW joint-use agreement between the City of Morgan Hill and the Santa Clara Valley Water District will soon provide a 29-acre pristine trail area for nature lovers, walkers, and joggers to use for their recreation. The San Pedro Groundwater Recharge Ponds, located at the intersection of Hill Road and San Pedro Avenue, are currently used solely for groundwater recharge. Now, with the encouragement of the local community, these public lands will be opened for public recreation. The grand opening will occur later this month or in early January. Please check Channel 17, the City's website, and local newspapers for the exact time and date.



the ponds are very steep, the trails around the ponds will be fenced to promote public safety.

The San Pedro ponds help to recharge the Uvas/Llagas subbasin that supplies 100% of the water to Morgan Hill. There are seven recharge ponds that average about 15 feet in depth. From the trails around the ponds, you will often be able to view migrating birds that find refuge at the ponds and other wildlife. Since the banks of

Volunteers are needed to keep the San Pedro ponds trails clean, safe and enjoyable. Sponsors are also being sought to assist the neighborhood with improvements to the trails area. To volunteer as a park helper or offer to help underwrite the cost of a tree or park bench, please contact Dr. Jon Hatakeyama by mail at 370 W. Dunne Ave. Ste. #3, Morgan Hill, CA. 95037, by phone at 779-7391 or by email at orinfo@smilefiles.com.

For other information about this new recreational opportunity, contact our Public Works Department at 776-7337.



Article by Mori Struve, Deputy Director of Public Works, 776-7333 or moris@morgan-hill.ca.gov
Special thanks to the Santa Clara Valley Water District for contributing significantly to this article.

Jasmine Square Development On the Way

GONE DOWN Monterey Road recently? You will notice that the old Trail Dust Restaurant building is gone. So is the Alpine Trailer Park behind it. They have been razed to make room for a new residential mixed-use development named Jasmine Square. In addition to apartments, the complex will feature an office building and child care facility.

Jasmine Square will be the second major project between the Redevelopment Agency and South County Housing to replace very blighted, primarily residential properties with lovely new apartments. Their last effort replaced John's Trailer Park with the award-winning Villa Ciolino Apartments.

Jasmine Square will feature 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apartments, a large community center, laundry facilities, and a tot lot. South County Housing will also make available after school and other social programs to the residents. The residential component will start behind the commercial aspects and continue to Church street. The day care center will be located on Monterey Road next to the Post Office and will be capable of handling 50 children. A 5,000 square foot office building will be just south of the day care center.

The groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, December 4, 2003 at 2PM. Construction is slated to last a little more than a year and should be completed next December.



Article by Bill Newkirk, Business Assistance and Housing Analyst, 776-7373, Newkirkb@morgan-hill.ca.gov


HOLIDAY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT YOUR COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER

Children's Holiday Party

Come and enjoy the fun activities on Friday, December 12, from 4-7 at the Morgan Hill Community & Cultural Center. The Recreation Team will provide face painting, animal balloons, snacks, music, and games. Bring your camera for a picture with Santa Claus. Please bring a new unwrapped toy for the "Toys 4 Tots" toy drive. A donation of \$3 per child is requested - but not required to cover party expenses. This party is best suited for children 3-10 years of age.

Toys 4 Tots at the Community Center

Starting December 8 and continuing through December 19, the Toys 4 Tots train will be located at the Community & Cultural Center for community members to donate new unwrapped toys to children who are in need of some special holiday cheer. The center is open daily from 8am until 8pm M – F and Saturdays from 9 – Noon for donations.

Please call the Recreation & Community Service Division for further information on any of these events at 782-0008. 




COMING SOON TO YOUR MAILBOX

The City of Morgan Hill's Winter/Spring 2004 Recreation Guide will be mailed out to all Morgan Hill residents this month. You can't miss it! It will have the picture of the Morgan Hill Community & Cultural Center (CCC) on the front cover and is packed with over 300 classes for children, teens and adults.

NEW THIS SEASON will be classes for children in Theater Fun, The Joy of Music, and Karate. Back by popular demand will be Kidz Love Soccer, cheerleading, clay classes, and dance classes. For teens and adults there will be Samba Percussion classes, fencing, yoga, pilates, drawing, ceramics and more. If you don't receive a guide in the mail, please call the Recreation and Community Services Division at 782-0008 and we will be glad to send one to you. Alternately, you can stop by the CCC to pick one up or download it off of the City's website.

"BUSINESS", FROM PAGE 1

In August, the City Council amended the Municipal Code to exempt small residential units converting to a commercial use, and also the construction of small commercial additions, from several costly City requirements and fees. Depending on the particular project, savings could easily be in the tens of thousands of dollars. That's great news for small projects in the downtown!

For more information, please call the City's Business Assistance and Housing Services Department at 776-7373. 

Article by Joyce Maskell, Business and Housing Assistance Manager, 776-7373, Maskellj@morganhill.ca.gov

MORGAN HILL COMMUNITY GUIDE

CHANNEL 17 PROGRAMMING

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

| | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------|
| REGULAR SESSION: | 12/03 | 7PM LIVE |
| | 12/04 | NOON REPLAY |
| | 12/06 | 8PM REPLAY |
| | 12/07 | NOON REPLAY |

| | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------|
| REGULAR SESSION: | 12/17 | 7PM LIVE |
| | 12/18 | NOON REPLAY |
| | 12/20 | 8PM REPLAY |
| | 12/21 | NOON REPLAY |

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

| | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------|
| REGULAR SESSION: | 12/09 | 7PM LIVE |
| | 12/10 | NOON REPLAY |
| | 12/13 | NOON REPLAY |
| | 12/14 | 8PM REPLAY |

| | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------|
| REGULAR SESSION: | 12/23 | 7PM LIVE |
| | 12/24 | NOON REPLAY |
| | 12/27 | NOON REPLAY |
| | 12/28 | 8PM REPLAY |

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE 9:00AM & 4:30PM DAILY
7PM MONDAY & FRIDAY

THE OLD MORGAN HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MEMORIES 9:30AM & 5:00PM DAILY
7:30PM FRIDAY

FUGITIVE WATCH 10:30AM & 6:00PM DAILY
THE BAY AREA'S MOST WANTED 8:30PM FRIDAY

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

FIRST DAY OF WINTER • DECEMBER 22ND

CITY OFFICES CLOSED • DECEMBER 24-JANUARY 2

HOLIDAY GARBAGE & RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Christmas and New Year's Day both fall on Thursday this season. If Thursday is your regularly scheduled collection day, please remember that your service will occur on Friday during these two weeks. If Friday is your regularly scheduled collection day, your service will occur on Saturday. Call South Valley Disposal & Recycling at 842-3358 for more information.



CITY OF MORGAN HILL 2004 RECYCLING CALENDAR

Look for your 2004 Recycling Calendar to arrive in the mail soon. This year's calendar once again offers a selection of exceptional artwork produced by local school children and, of course, helps you remember your recycling collection schedule. Can't wait to

find out which artist took top honors and graces the cover? Check out the sneak preview. Be sure to enter this fun and prestigious contest - open to all Morgan Hill school children - this coming March.

CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS

| | |
|--|----------|
| Mayor Dennis Kennedy | 779-7259 |
| Mayor Pro Tempore Hedy L. Chang | 778-0511 |
| Councilmember Larry Carr | 779-9622 |
| Councilmember Greg Sellers | 778-2370 |
| Councilmember Steve Tate | 779-6992 |
| City Clerk Irma Torrez | 779-7259 |
| City Treasurer Michael Roorda | 778-3653 |

CITY EXECUTIVE STAFF

City Manager **J. Edward Tewes**
City Attorney **Helene L. Leichter**
Assistant To The City Manager **Melissa Stevenson Dile**
Assistant To The City Manager **Anthony Eulo**
Business Assistance/Housing Services Director **Garrett Toy**
Community Development Director **David Bischoff**
Council Services and Records Manager **Irma Torrez**
Finance Director **Jack Dilles**
Human Resources Director **Mary Kaye Fisher**
Police Chief **Gerald T. Galvin**
Public Works Director **Jim Ashcraft**
Recreation and Community Services Manager **Julie Spier**

CONTACTING YOUR CITY

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8AM to 5PM

Address: 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

| | |
|--|----------|
| Animal Control | 776-7300 |
| Building Inspection | 779-7241 |
| Business Assist. & Housing Services | 776-7373 |
| City Clerk | 779-7259 |
| City Manager | 779-7271 |
| Community & Cultural Center | 782-0008 |
| Emergency Services/Disaster Preparedness | 776-7310 |
| Environmental Programs | 779-7247 |
| Finance | 779-7237 |
| Fire Department (County Fire) | 378-4010 |
| Job Hotline | 779-7276 |
| Planning: Land Use / Zoning | 779-7247 |
| Police Administration | 776-7315 |
| Public Works | 776-7337 |
| Recreation & Community Services | 782-0008 |
| Water | 779-7221 |
| Volunteer Programs | 779-7278 |
| City Hall Fax Number | 779-3117 |

City Website: <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov>

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Questions or comments about City Visions are welcome.

Contact Editor Anthony Eulo at 779-7247 or environ@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov. City Visions is published monthly by the City of Morgan Hill.

CITY VISIONS
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MORGAN HILL, CA 95037

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